

## SOUTH NEEDS AID OF THE IMMIGRANT

Several Experiments Tried  
in North Carolina.

### ITALIANS PROVE DESIRABLE

Hugh MacRea Describes the Plans  
Adopted to Bring Good Farmers to  
Unoccupied Lands Near Wilmington—  
They Work Out to the Advan-  
tage of All Concerned.

Hugh MacRea, of Wilmington, N. C., the third generation of men intimately associated with the railroad and commercial development of the South, takes great interest in the immigration question, as it affects the whole country and particularly the South. He has been engaged for several years in certain plans to bring sturdy European workers into the South, and from study and experience is specially entitled to speak upon the general subject of immigration to the Southern States. His views are contained in the following communication to The Washington Herald:

Wilmington, N. C., May 15.—It will be increased the wealth of a country to add to its industrial and country population. The demonstration is contained in this true in the Western States, where millions of sturdy immigrants, English, Scotch, Irish, Germans, French Canadians, Swedes, Hungarians, Poles, Finns, and Italians have in succession been distributed as wealth producers, each in turn lifting those who went before to higher levels of prosperity and wealth. Great agricultural development, great industries, and great cities have been the direct result of this ever-increasing army of producers of wealth.

#### Little Immigration South.

The South has stood aloof from immigration partly from conservatism, but largely from the fact that immigration to the South has been under the conditions heretofore prevailing, almost impossible. During forty years following the war, when for lack of financial strength the South's energies were dormant and only slowly recovering from the effects of the complete exhaustion of the struggle, there was more labor available on account of the large negro population than it was possible to use. This reason was retained low and in turn all industries languished because of the low earning power of labor and the low purchasing power of wages.

The sturdy immigrants naturally went where there was least competition and highest wages. For a number of years it has been a wish of mine to make the attempt to secure immigration, but it has only been within the past four years that this could take practical shape; and up to the present time the work has been largely experimental. We have established five colonies, with Italians at St. Helena, Hungarians and Hollanders at Castle Hayne, Poles at Marathon, Germans at New Berlin, and Hollanders and Poles at Artesia.

#### Success with Italians.

I shall refer especially to the Italian colony, as that is the oldest—three years old—and is the largest and most successful.

First, a word about the preliminary work. Having noted the success of farmers along the coastal region, from New Jersey through Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia, to Florida, we became convinced that there was a vast area of fertile land available for profitable agriculture, which only needed proper drainage. The country is quite level, and the rainfall is from sixty to seventy inches per annum. We secured the assistance of government experts to make preliminary soil surveys of the section around Wilmington, which section has the peculiar advantage of being south of the line where the ground is subject to freezing in winter, and at the same time of being near to the great Northern markets.

From the knowledge obtained from the government soil survey, and from the training as experts, and surveys and maps were made of more than six hundred square miles of land. The reports of the soil experts exceeded our expectations. Options were taken on large areas which were best suited for the purpose of colonization. After the titles were examined and accepted by competent attorneys, corps of engineers were put in the field to make surveys, drainage plans, and layouts for farming communities and town sites. This required about two years' work of a large force of men.

#### Studying Sources of Immigration.

In the meantime, agents were sent abroad to study the sources of immigration, and the best manner of directing the immigrants to the desired location. Demonstration farms were started so that the first arrivals could be shown the best methods under the new conditions. The ditching, clearing, and fencing were first done by negro labor, and later by the colonists as they arrived. A good superintendent, who was a skilled agriculturist, was placed in charge of each colony, even when it contained only two or three families. As the cost of preparing for and securing the first arrivals was enormous, it seemed wise to nurse them with the greatest care.

The Italian colony was started with seven families from Northern Italy. They were chosen from a district in the province of Venetia, and it may be interesting to know that our agent, upon investigation, found from the records that no serious crime had been committed in this district for more than four hundred years. To this can be added the statement that at St. Helena in three years there has not been a single lawless act. I have never seen any people more contented and happy. They are frugal and industrious, and compare satisfactorily in every way with the native white population.

#### Find the Family Best.

We have found that colonies do not succeed without families. The women and children are necessary to a sound development. We established the custom of showing appreciation of this fact by giving a present of five dollars in gold to each bride in the colony, and a gift of ten dollars in gold for each child brought by the bride to St. Helena. We have no standard by which to gauge the efficiency of these bounties, but can say that the expenditure on that account has become quite an item in our budget.

St. Helena (named in honor of the Queen of Italy) was started in a pine forest. The pine wood as soon as it was cut from the land was purchased from the colonists, and each man was employed one-half of his time working for the company, ditching, fencing, and building roads. The women and children work all of their time in preparing the land for the first crops, the men giving half of their time to doing the heavy, rough work. At St. Helena there have been sold sixty acres of ten acres each. There are about three hundred people in the colony, and already there

## WHERE YOUNG VIRGINIANS STUDY.



Mount Vernon High School Building at Mount Ida, Va.

are about two hundred acres under cultivation, and two hundred acres additional cleared and ready for the plow.

During the past season sufficient strawberries were planted which, in addition to those already bearing, will bring the total in strawberries up to one hundred acres. There are forty acres in cotton, fifteen acres in corn, fifteen acres in potatoes, and eighty acres in miscellaneous vegetables. It is estimated that next spring, during the strawberry season, the Italians at St. Helena will ship each day more than one solid refrigerator carload of strawberries to the Northern markets, and under market conditions as good as those of the past year this crop will bring more than \$10,000 in cash into the colony.

Our experimental work with colonies has necessarily been done at great expense, and we have made the usual mistakes which may be expected in pioneer work. But from these we have reached some conclusions.

We believe that the North Italians are particularly desirable for North Carolina. The reason is that they are used to a climate similar to ours. They have been healthy and vigorous, and St. Helena has practically been free from sickness for three years. As the immigration of North Italians, the South has no cause to fear the descendants of the people who were the builders of Rome and Venice and of Florence and Milan.

To the immigrants we sell land, houses, and mules on long time; we also furnish those who are without means with seeds and fertilizers, and give them instructions as to planting and marketing.

The Italians of St. Helena are desirous of becoming American citizens; their children are attending the public schools, and the men and women are anxious to learn the English language. They take great pride in their community, and show a spirit of co-operation in many ways. They have organized a brass band of fifteen pieces, and on holidays and feast days they find great satisfaction in playing alternately the favorite airs of Italy and America.

#### Hollanders Are Desirable.

We find that Hollanders will also prove very desirable colonists. They are among the most skilled agriculturists in the world. In one locality, from which the Hollanders at Castle Hayne have come, there are six hundred people making a living, by intensive farming, on a tract of land which has a total area of fifty acres.

We feel certain that the race problem of the South will be either solved by immigration or will be so greatly minimized that its solution will not be a matter of supreme importance. It seems clear that the development of the South cannot be continued in the same ratio as for the past few years, except through an increase in its agricultural population. As has been shown in the West, this will not reduce the price of labor, nor will it adversely affect the value of farm products.

The failure of the Wittekind experiment, and the failure of the attempt to bring English spinners to Greensboro, demonstrated that the immigrants should be directed to agriculture, and from this source the other demands for labor may later be supplied. The first immigrants to be brought to the South cannot be broadcasted. They must be treated with great care, just as one would with rare plants being brought to a new locality.

## TAFT WILL VISIT CITY OF CHARLOTTE

Continued from Page One.

ments of National Guards, in both North and South Carolina, and one battery of light artillery. The military division will include at least fifty floats, representing industries in Charlotte and some of the neighboring places.

The floral division will contain over thirty floats decorated with flowers, and will carry a large number of ladies dressed in colonial costumes.

Will Have Twenty-five Floats. The colonial division will consist of twenty-five floats, each representing a different county in the State, with four representative men and their wives from each county, dressed in colonial costumes.

Over 200 farmers, with either wives or sweethearts, will ride horses and will wear the costumes of colonial days. The fraternal societies and secret orders will turn out in all about 800 men. Over 100 automobiles will be in line. Eleven bands will furnish music for the parade.

Other features of the celebration will include a grand music festival, with artists of national reputation taking the leading parts. Three large carnival companies, league baseball, daily band concerts, exhibition drills daily by the United States troops, firemen's exhibition drills, fireworks, &c.

W. T. CORWITZ,  
Secretary Greater Charlotte Club.

## SILVER SPRING PARK GROWS.

Subdivision in Maryland Has Half  
Mile of New Houses on One Street.

One of the most attractive of the suburbs about Washington is Silver Spring Park, in Georgia avenue, just beyond the District line, in Maryland. The park fronts about 1,500 feet in Georgia avenue, and contains about 106 acres of ground, which has been subdivided into choice lots for the sites of homes such as the suburbanites love to build in the country. The subdivision has been laid out in streets. It has both flat and rolling lawns, and some of it is covered with fine trees. It is an ideal place for the home-seeker.

Silver Spring has been open for the investment of the home-seeker for about two years, and about half a mile of substantial buildings have been erected without the aid of building companies and the expense attached thereto. Silver Spring is easily accessible from the city by the electric line of cars in Georgia avenue and by the trains of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

## NEW ORLEANS OWNS TERMINAL WHARVES

Mr. Ransdell Says This Is the  
Wise Course.

### HE PRAISES CRESCENT CITY

President of National Rivers and  
Harbors Congress Discusses Advan-  
tages to Commerce of Nondis-  
criminating Port Facilities—Speaks  
of Inland System of Waterways.

New Orleans, May 15.—The ownership and control of wharves and harbor facilities was the subject discussed by Representative Joseph E. Ransdell, president of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress, at the waterways banquet given by the New Orleans Progressive Union, in honor of the officers of the battle ship Mississippi, last Wednesday night.

Mr. Ransdell pointed out the value to the general shipper of facilities controlled by the public in such a way as to remove all discrimination and favoritism, as against facilities owned and controlled by private corporations, principally the railroads, for the benefit of specific interests, and used the newly acquired wharves, river front, and belt railroad at New Orleans to illustrate his point.

#### Value to Crescent City.

In part, Mr. Ransdell said: "No city in the Union has more interest in the improvement of the waterways than New Orleans, with its splendid harbor, capable of holding in safe anchorage all the ships in the world, and its location on the Father of Waters, which is the outlet of 15,000 miles of navigable rivers."

"Being a seaport, it connects with all the harbors of our coasts, and is interested in them and the internal waters which contribute to their commerce, and every river which empties into the Mississippi is an artery which supplies rich life blood to the heart of the valley—New Orleans. And when connection is made between the Great Lakes, the rivers and canals of Canada, and the Erie Canal of the Empire State, which carry to it the largest internal water-borne commerce on earth."

"With all our harbors and rivers properly improved, New Orleans will receive business by water craft from every part of the republic, hence it views this subject in its broadest aspect, and wishes to help every worthy waterway project in the land."

#### New Orleans Specially Fortunate.

"New Orleans is especially fortunate in having retained control of most of its river front. Instead of transferring same to railroads, as has been done by nearly all of our great cities. It has a public belt railroad, owned by the city, which connects every railroad entering the city with every wharf and dock on the river front, and all ships in its port are served by fine steel warehouses of the latest design, which belong to the public, and give equal service to all comers. I congratulate the city on its wisdom in this respect, and hope this policy will never change. One of the promulged men in public life told me recently that he considered the terminal facilities of New Orleans the best of any city in the Union, and I fully agree with him. Guard these terminals as a precious jewel, and make them just as perfect as possible, for they will be needed in the great destiny that is coming to this city ere many years."

"During the steel and iron age of the two centuries, transportation on our internal rivers has been much neglected, and in many instances the rivers are scarcely used at all. But a change is in sight. The business world is beginning to realize that water is the best, the cheapest, and the quickest agent for transporting low-class bulk articles, and again, as in the past, and as the Germans and French do at this time. In Germany and in France transportation by water costs one-fifth as much as by rail; in the United States, on our few thoroughly improved water courses about one-sixth as much as by rail; hence it would be well to improve our waters. The cost will be large—probably \$50,000,000—but it would pay heavily as an investment, and if funds are not available out of current revenues, they should be provided by bond issues of \$50,000,000 per year for ten years. Railroads are always built by bonds; the great Panama and Erie canals are now being constructed out of the proceeds of bonds; why not improve our waters in the same way? Posterity will reap most of the benefit from permanent waterway improvements and should help to pay for them."

#### Wants Farmers in Texas.

Alice, Tex., May 15.—Alice, Nueces County, Tex., has taken a few steps forward during the year. It has added a hundred new farms, the capacity of the ice plant has been doubled, a cotton gin built, a bank established, and work is progressing on a cotton seed oil mill, which is to be ready for this season. The greatest need of this section is more farmers to help develop tens of thousands of acres of fertile land that has never felt the tickling sensation of a plow.

D. S. BOOTH,  
Secretary Retail Merchants' Association.

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D. S. BOOTH,  
Secretary Retail Merchants' Association.

## CENTER OF A RICH PRAIRIE

Knox City, Tex., Surrounded by  
Fine Agricultural Country.

Has Thirty-four Business Houses  
and is Pushing Municipal  
Improvement.

Knox City, Tex., May 15.—Before we go into details about Knox City, we wish to mention the famous Knox prairie, in the center of which is Knox City.

The largest body of purely agricultural land in West Texas. The country within a radius of ten miles of Knox City is thickly settled up and developed.

With proper tilling, anything that grows in a temperate climate can be successfully grown in this country. Cotton, corn, milk maize, Caffir corn, sorghum, wheat, oats, rye, barley, alfalfa, and peanuts; also vegetables, cabbage, beets, radishes, turnips, beans, peas, tomatoes, cucumbers, watermelons, cantaloupes, sweet and Irish potatoes. Nearly all of the fruits do extra well, peaches, pears, plums, apricots, cherries, prunes, blackberries, dewberries, and strawberries. This is a land of opportunity, with most productive soil.

Knox City is in the southwestern part of Knox County, on the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railroad. The railroad reached this place in March, 1907, and the town began to grow. We now have thirty-four business houses, two banks, one good weekly paper, also one small job office, from which is published a weekly journal; two hotels, a telephone exchange, two of the largest lumber yards in West Texas, two cotton gins, a Farmers' Union warehouse, one grain elevator, one bottling works, three churches (there are others to be built soon), a fine brick school building to cost \$15,000 now under construction; also a \$40,000 oil mill and a fifty-barrel flour mill. All of these enterprises, with good prospects for an electric light plant, water works, and steam laundry in the near future.

Knox City has never been on a "boom," but there has never been a time since the coming of the railroad that there has not been building of some kind going on. There are now under construction about twenty-five good, substantial residences. Knox City can boast of more people, better buildings, &c., than any other town in the State her age.

Under our free school system, we have as good schools as there are in the United States. These being facts, it is no wonder those who would build a home for themselves or provide a heritage for their children, should turn their mind's eye toward Knox City, Tex.

E. B. ATTENBURY,  
Editor Knox County News.

## FROM CROSS-ROAD TO CITY

Takes Florida Town Five Years to  
Make Transition.

Has Telephones and Electric Lights,  
Ice Plant, and New  
Waterworks.

Mayo, Fla., May 15.—Mayo calls itself the "biggest little town in Florida," a claim that is justified by its progressive spirit. With a population of a little over 400 in 1905, it now has 1,000. But a cross-road in the piney woods of Lafayette County a few years ago, it is now a town with electric lights, ice plant, waterworks, paved streets, up-to-date telephone exchange, a stone courthouse, an artificial stone high school building that would do credit to a city, bathing pools, and a park in the heart of the town.

The town is surrounded by excellent long staple cotton land, is within two miles of one of the largest electric saw-mills in the United States, is near several turpentine stills, and is the home of stock raisers whose cattle range the woods of Lafayette County summer and winter with feed except enough to keep them gentle.

Truck growing here is in its infancy, but our piney woods and hummock lands will produce anything craved by the appetites of man or beast. We need more people, and the Mayo board of trade will tell you all about the county if you will only drop it a card.

ARTHUR L. AUVIL,  
Secretary Board of Trade.

## WOULD SUBSIDIZE RAILROAD.

Texas Town Offers \$1,000 a Mile to  
Company Which Will Build It.

Fairfield is the county seat of Freestone County, Tex., located in the geographical center of the county and surrounded by a productive farming country occupied by a class of industrious people. Fairfield is located about twelve miles from the Trinity and Brazos Valley Railroad, Teague being the nearest railroad town. There is no town in Texas off the railroad that does a better business than Fairfield and no community more prosperous.

The country for miles east and southeast of Fairfield is comparatively undeveloped. Coal, iron ore, cotton, and other valuable minerals exist in abundant quantities. The citizens of Fairfield, through their organized industrial club, are doing all in their power to improve the town and the surrounding country, and a railroad, for which the citizens offer a bonus of \$1,000 a mile to any company which will build the road and equip it.

R. M. COMPTON,  
Secretary Industrial Club.

## NEW HOUSES MODERN IDEAS

WE OFFER FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING NEW  
DWELLINGS, WELL LOCATED. THE ARRANGE-  
MENT AND CONSTRUCTION ARE OF THE VERY  
BEST. THEY CAN BE PURCHASED ON VERY EASY  
PAYMENTS. APPLY FOR PARTICULARS AND  
ARRANGE FOR US TO SHOW THEM TO YOU.

### ON THE HEIGHTS.

\$7,500 each. Very attractive dwellings, containing twelve rooms and two bathrooms; hot-water heat; two stairways; hardwood trimmed; gas and electric lights. On one of the choicest squares west of Fourteenth street. These houses are offered at actual cost. The owner offers them without any profit, his object being to dispose of his land.

\$7,750 each. A block of new houses just being completed on the corner of Thirteenth and Lamont streets; three stories; ten rooms; two baths; hot-water heat; hardwood floors; servants' stairway. The decorations, mantels, and gas fixtures are much more expensive than any ever bought in a similar priced house in this section.

\$6,750 each. Beautiful new houses on Thirteenth street. One of the best improved squares; very attractive; three stories; ten rooms; hardwood floors; expensive mantels; hot-water heat; servants' stairway; covered porches; good-sized lot, &c.

\$5,500 each. New house between 14th and Connecticut ave., P and T; very pretty. HOT-WATER HEAT; covered porch; laundry; hardwood finish. A \$20,000 neighborhood.

\$6,750. New 8-room houses, Washington Heights; HOT-WATER HEAT; covered porches; polished oak floors.

\$7,250 each. Two new houses just completed, west of Sixteenth street; southern exposure; ten rooms; hot-water heat; two stairways; wide covered front porch; attractive decorations; about the best value in the way of a new house in the northwest section.

\$11,750. New houses on Washington Heights, near Nineteenth street; three stories; ten rooms; three bathrooms; two stairways; thoroughly well constructed; beautifully finished; lots 20 by 120 to a wide paved alley.

\$5,750 each. New houses on Washington Heights, near Eighteenth street and Columbia road, north of Columbia road; hot-water heated; hardwood trimmed; two stairways; covered porches; the decorations and mantels are more expensive than ordinarily found in a \$10,000 house. Undoubtedly the most complete and best-located low-priced house in Washington.

\$3,500 each. You can buy a new house in Washington Heights at this extremely low price; very attractive; six rooms; cellar; covered porch; tiled bath; furnace heat; lot about 125 feet deep to an alley; an opportunity to locate at a small outlay in this high-class neighborhood.

\$7,950. Near the Connecticut avenue bridge; attractive new colonial homes; ten rooms and two baths; lots 22 by 120.

\$3,950 each. Block of new houses on the heights; situated on one of the most prominent thoroughfares; covered porches; beautiful mantels; costly decorations; gas and electric lights.

\$4,750 each. New houses in Mount Pleasant, near Sixteenth street; two stories and cellar; hot-water heat; wide covered porches, front and rear; gas and electric lights; complete in every detail; lots 20 by 135 feet.

## IN THE BLOOMINGDALE SECTION.

New houses near North Capitol and R streets; erected by one of Washington's most reliable builders; carefully finished; hot-water heat; tiled bath; southern exposure. Price, each, \$4,650.

On Rhode Island avenue; three stories; hot-water heat; ten rooms. Price reduced to \$5,150.

\$5,950. Near First street; undoubtedly the most complete three-story house in Washington for the price; similar houses in sections not so desirable are selling for \$7,250; three stories; hot-water heat; finished throughout in quartered oak; wide, deep rooms; covered porches; lots 18 by 140 to a wide alley.

## CAPITOL HILL, NORTHEAST AND SOUTHEAST.

\$5,000 each. Very complete new houses on Seventh street; hot-water heat; hardwood trimmed; polished floors; attractive decorations; open fireplaces; speaking tubes; good-sized lots.

\$5,500. A most desirable corner, northwest, near the Union Station; four rooms deep on each floor; hot-water heat; large cellar.

\$4,250 each. Thoroughly well-constructed new houses on Fifth street; two stories and cellar; furnace heat; covered porches; cabinet mantels; good-sized lots.

\$3,750 each. On Third street, convenient to the Capitol and Union Station; these houses are very complete and attractive; will furnish tenants to pay \$25 a month; for homes or investments they cannot be excelled.

\$4,250 each. A proposition that should interest any one looking for modern, well-located houses in the northeast section at a reasonable figure. The houses were constructed by a gentleman who builds a few houses each year, but takes particular pains to build them well; two stories and cellar; hot-water heat; covered porches; lots 20 by 100.

One square from Lincoln Park; new houses; \$4,500 each; hot-water heat; covered porches; open fireplaces; cabinet mantels; costly chandeliers; wide parking. This is an exceptionally fine location. The houses are complete in every detail, and will be sold quickly.

\$5,750 each. New houses on East Capitol street; very close to Lincoln Park; hot-water heat; good elevation; well finished.

**STONE & FAIRFAX,**  
1342 New York Ave.

## MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

I. Resolved, That whosoever directly, or indirectly, abets, or in any way, form, or manner countenances the invasion of our rights, as attempted by the Parliament of Great Britain, is an enemy to this country, to America, and to the rights of men.

II. Resolved, That we, the citizens of Mecklenburg County, do hereby dissolve the political bonds which have connected us with the mother country, and absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the British crown, abjuring all political connection with a nation that has wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties and inhumanly shed innocent blood of Americans at Lexington and Concord.

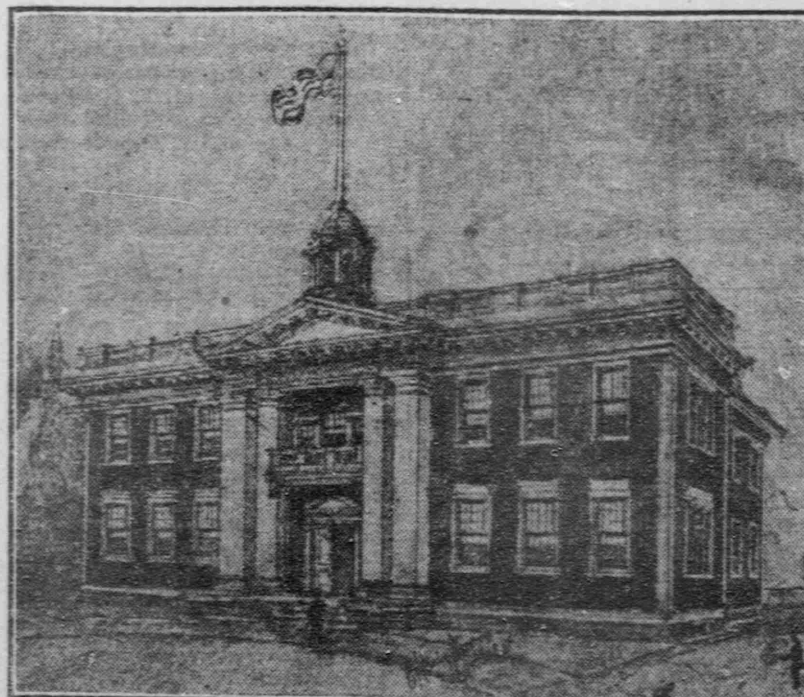
III. Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people; that we are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing people, under the power of God and the General Congress; to the maintenance of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honor.

IV. Resolved, That we hereby ordain and adopt as rules of conduct all and each of our former laws, and that the Crown of Great Britain cannot be considered hereafter as holding any right, privileges, or immunities among us.

V. Resolved, That all officers, both civil and military, in this county be entitled to exercise the same powers and authorities as heretofore; that every member of this delegation shall henceforth be a civil officer and exercise the powers of a justice of the peace, issue process, hear and determine controversies according to law, preserve peace, union, and harmony in the county, and use every exertion to spread the love of liberty and country until a more general and better organized system of government be established.

VI. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by express to the President of the Continental Congress, assembled in Philadelphia, to be laid before that body.

## NEW TYPE OF MARYLAND SCHOOLHOUSE.



B. Stanley Simmons, architect, has prepared the plans for a new eight-room schoolhouse, containing an assembly hall, for Clinton, formerly Surrattsville, Prince George County, Md. The capacity of the school will be 100 pupils. Ground will be broken for the building about June 1, and it will be ready for use about September 1.